INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/IB2004/001197

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H01S3/109 H01S H0153/042 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 H01S Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, IBM-TDB, INSPEC, COMPENDEX C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ° Relevant to claim No. Υ US 6 287 298 B1 (CHENG EMILY ET AL) 1 11 September 2001 (2001-09-11) column 5, line 22 - column 6, line 60 19 column 10, lines 1-35; figure 3 Y EP 0 814 546 A (FUJI PHOTO FILM CO LTD) 1 29 December 1997 (1997-12-29) Α column 2, line 31 - column 4, line 31; 19 figures 1,2 US 6 049 555 A (HYUGA HIROAKI ET AL) 1 11 April 2000 (2000-04-11) column 4, lines 21-62; figure 1 19 US 5 187 714 A (HYUGA HIROAKI ET AL) 1,19 16 February 1993 (1993-02-16) column 5, line 37 - column 6, line 2; figure 3 -/--Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. X Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention *E* earlier document but published on or after the international 'X' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docuother means ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed *&* document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 11 August 2004 25/08/2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Gnugesser, H

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